

"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire

Tundra Times



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A Problem New or Old— Are Bristol Bay Salmon U. S. Citizens ?

The recent action by the President in declaring Bristol Bay an emergency disaster area has brought into focus on a nationwide basis the need for immediate action by our government. If we are to head off the destruction and extinction of yet another of our rapidly dwindling resources our elected representatives had best tune their ears to the voices of our own Alaskan fishermen. Their cries of warning, and pleas for action have too long gone unheeded.

In this era of the seventies, in this time of "instant" shortages, one may be startled, but not totally surprised to pick up his paper and learn that another of his taken for granted, everyday needed food or energy resources is in dangerously short supply.

"It's the times," he cries. "Why didn't they see this coming and do something 10 years ago?"

In the case of the Bristol Bay fishermen, they cannot be accused of blissful ignorance in watching their salmon resources slowly dropping to the crisis level. Their cries for controls and regulations are echoed by their fathers and even grandfathers who fished those waters in the pre-conservation '30s.

As early as the 1937 season, when American fishermen caught virtually no salmon, the Japanese fleet was reaping a record harvest. Through the use of gear legal and illegal, in season and out, our Alaskan salmon were being "emigrated" to Japan. Reports of Japanese fishermen camping on shore, shooting caribou, trading whiskey to the Natives for supplies, and other irresponsible acts prompted the Americans to threaten to arm their crews with rifles and ammunition for the 1938 season.

All of this, plus proof of the operation of Japanese floating canneries in the area caused some government action to be taken. A Seattle-based representative of the Japanese fishing industry agreed that their fleet would abide by an agreement originally made in 1935.

A scientific study was embarked upon, and for three years, under the auspices of the United States Government the Hakuro Maru, a Japanese Government ship, fished the Bristol Bay waters in a "scientific study" of the salmon problem.

The result was the canning of several hundred cases of salmon, and new warnings from the American fishermen that unless the Japanese were excluded from the area, the Bristol Bay fisheries would be destroyed within 10 years. Remember, this was 35 years ago.

During a meeting of the Institute of Pacific Relations at that time, a Japanese scientist is alleged to have remarked to an American member:

"You evidently think those salmon bear the Stars and Stripes on their backs."

Were this statement to be posed to today's fishermen, I'm sure the response would be, "You bet your banzai they do!"

Are Bristol Bay salmon United States citizens?

I think so.

Our fishermen think so.

Now, if the Congress and administration can be made to think so, the necessary legislation to close the Bristol Bay area to all but American fishermen must take priority as quickly as possible.

D.G.A.

Letters from Here and There

Tahl Graduates at Folsom

June 26, 1974

Howard Rock, Editor
Tundra Times
P.O. Box 1287
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Howard:

Enclosed is a copy of my letter to Governor Egan concerning the media reports about moving the State Capitol from Juneau.

Before the State even entertains spending the estimated \$500 million it would take to move the capital, the State should meet its legal and moral obligation to the Native People. The State does, after all, owe My People at least the \$500 million it would take to move the capital.

Going through my photo albums the other day, I found this graduation photo of myself that was taken here at Folsom over a year ago when I received my high school diploma. (I actually graduated in January of 1973 after completing the required unit courses.

After rumors that there would be no Summer Session here for the college students, I'm happy to report that there will be two subjects offered to us: Physical Anthropology II and Sociology 1b.

You may be interested to learn that upon completion of these two subjects I will have 36 units towards my Associate of Arts Degree.

If I remain here through the Spring '75 Semester I will receive my degree at the high school graduation ceremonies in June 1975.

As I may have mentioned to you earlier, my studies are geared towards youth and young adult counseling.

With my past experiences, and what I've learned from them, and my academic education I know that I will be an effective counselor.

And I hope to put this knowledge and ability to work for my people, and to anyone else that I can be of service to.

Howard, I know what you and many of your staff look like, yet your only vision of me has been through my letters to you.

Now, at least you will know what I look like, too.

Take care, all of you, and may the Great Spirit guide you.

William A.A. Tahl
(An Eskimo)
P.O. Box B40988
Repesa, Calif. 95671

June 26, 1974

Hon. William Egan
Governor of the State of Alaska
State Capitol Bldg.
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Egan:

I have been following the media reports of why or why not the State Capitol should be moved.

Estimates of the change of location of the State Capitol is in the \$500 million bracket. That's quite a sum of money.

The State Capitol has been in Juneau for quite a number of years, a few more years there will not cause the state government to collapse.

I'm quite concerned about this issue. You see, I am an Eskimo, I have quite an interest in my state. Under Public Law 92-203 there is an outstanding "bill" that the state has to meet. This "bill" is payable to the Alaska

At Age 67—

Stickman Still Charms Ladies

Anchorage, Alaska
July 3, 1974

Doctor Howard Rock,
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Friend the Medicine Man:

I'm being admitted to the ANS Hospital here 9 a.m. this morning for an operation on my big toe and also my right elbow.

Doctor asked me if I wanted to stay in the hospital for two months.

I said, "Sure."

Then I thought of my old house so dirty. Dishes, clothes, cook and etc.

What luck, just lay down, read newspaper, play solitaire. No work, no grub to worry

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William A.A. Tahl

Native People. The amount of this "bill" is exactly \$500 million, plus interest I would imagine.

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Your Dental Health

The contents of this series of "Dental Health Talks" was originally prepared by the American Dental Association. They are made available for Tundra Times through the Public Health Education Office of the Alaska Native Health Service.

It is well known that our dental health program in Interior Alaska has not yet reached everyone needing dental services. This is especially true about the people in the rural communities. However, everyone understands how important it is to take care of our teeth which is a part of our total well-being.

No. 17—Endodontic Treatment
Endodontics may be a tongue-twister word, but for a growing number of people it has meant that their diseased or injured teeth may be saved.

Endodontic therapy is sometimes called root canal therapy or nerve or pulp therapy. Literally, it means working inside the tooth.

Treatments of this type are very common today in general dental practice, but there also is a growing number of dentists who limit their practices to just endodontics as a specialty.

A tooth has three primary parts. Outermost is the hard enamel covering. Inside this is the softer dentin. And at the core is the pulp, a soft tissue that contains the delicate blood vessels and nerve fibers of the tooth.

The two usual causes of tooth pulp damage are accidents and decay. The typical toothache arises when the decay process has penetrated through the tooth to the nerves in the pulp.

The bacteria that cause decay can infect the pulp, and the infection can then spread through the pulpal canal in the tooth's root.

In the past, when decay reached the pulp, the tooth was extracted. Now, a dentist can clean the disease from the cavity and cap it with a protective paste. This gives the exposed pulp a chance to heal itself just like any other part of the body. In a month or two, if the pulp has healed, the dentist will put in a permanent filling.

If bacterial infection has spread to the pulp, the dentist will have to remove the diseased portion. Medication can then be

placed inside the tooth to ensure the destruction of any remaining bacteria, and the chamber sealed with a filling.

In severe cases where the entire pulp is diseased or destroyed, the dentist will remove all of the pulp. The hollow channel is cleaned, sterilized and filled with an inert substance.

Even if all the nerves and blood vessels inside the tooth must be removed, the tooth is not necessarily dead. It can still receive nourishment from the tiny fibers that attach the root to the surrounding soft tissues and bone of the jaw.

If a tooth should turn gray after its pulp has been damaged, this too can be remedied through endodontic therapy. A simple bleaching process on the inside after root canal therapy can return the tooth to its natural color.

Accidents are also a common cause of pulp damage, the most frequent types being mouth injuries occurring in automobile accidents, organized sports and playground activities.

If the crown of a tooth is fractured so that the pulp is exposed, it can be restored by pulpal or root canal therapy and a cap or crown of esthetic materials. A broken root can be repaired with a splint with or without root canal therapy.

Occasionally a tooth is knocked out completely. Even it can be reimplanted if you act quickly. Wrap the tooth in a damp towel, do not clean it and rush it and the patient to a dentist. Minutes are important here.

(Next article: "Why and When Some Teeth Have To Be Replaced")

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